

Committee on Vomitoxin

COMMITTEE RULES

Adopted: April 17, 2026

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. The name of this standing committee shall be Committee on Vomitoxin, hereinafter referred to as "COV."

Section 2. The operations of CoV are counseled and supported by representatives of the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) which is located at 632 Cepi Drive Chesterfield, MO 63005.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of CoV is to unify individual state resources for an efficient and effective approach to vomitoxin research in corn that yields improved tools for US farmers in the prevention, defense, mitigation, and remediation of toxin-related issues caused by *Gibberella zeae* fungi.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any corn producer entity that supports the mission of CoV and contributes financially to NCGA by August 30 of the current year may become a member for the upcoming funding RFP process, subject to approval by the current Voting Board.

Section 2. The CoV Steering Committee will be comprised of both voting members and non-voting members and representatives and will include the following: (a) Voting Board and (b) Research Advisory Body.

Section 3. Voting members shall be comprised of the following representation:

- (a) Voting Board. Corn Producing Entities must contribute a minimum of \$5,000, up to \$25,000, to be eligible to appoint one delegate to the Voting Board. For every additional \$25,000 contributed beyond the initial \$25,000, the member may appoint one additional delegate. Industrial, Ag Business or other related entities must contribute a minimum of \$25,000 of cash for research funding to be eligible to appoint one delegate to the Voting Board. For every additional \$25,000 contributed beyond the initial \$25,000, the member may appoint one additional delegate.

- a. The Voting Board shall:

- Elect a State Corn Producer to serve as Chair for the term of one year, up to three consecutive one year terms.
 - Provide a yearly review and update to MMCOE & CoV Priority Areas;
 - Determine if funding and priorities warrant a Request for Proposals (RPF) to be announced, and;
 - Approve the alteration, amendment or repeal of these Committee Rules or the adoption of new Mycotoxin Mitigation Center of Excellence Bylaws.
- (b) Responsible for a secondary review of proposals for prioritization, commerciality, feasibility, and value to the farmer.
- (c) Should a representative have a direct interest in a proposed project, the individual shall inform the CoV and not participate in the discussion and voting in the award process.
- (d) A voting representative may delegate one representative, who must be present at the commencement of a meeting, to vote at that meeting by proxy executed by the representative, acting as the representative's duly authorized attorney-in-fact.
- (e) The Voting Board will also make final determination of yearly funding under COV no later than the end of February of each year

Section 4. Non-voting members shall be comprised of the following representation:

- (a) Research Advisory Body. This body will be composed of up to ten (10) representatives with academic and/or industry qualifications for technical support to the Board.
- a. Each will serve for one year based on qualifying criteria.
 - b. May be from universities, government, scientific bodies, other commodity organizations, industry or retired.
 - c. Should a representative have a direct interest in a proposed project, the individual shall inform the CoV and limit him or herself in the discussion and award process.
 - d. Recommendations and selections will be made by NCGA and confirmed by the Voting Board no later than August 30th of the upcoming one- year term. Potential research advisory body members should have adequate qualifications which may include but are not limited to knowledge of the Gibberella genus, mycotoxins, priority scientific methodologies, cultivation

practices and/or storage and handling. in the research priorities as established by CoV representatives.

- e. The Research Advisory Body is responsible for an initial technical review and recommendations to be forwarded to the full CoV.

ARTICLE IV – PRIORITIES

Section 1. Priority should be given to research which supports discoveries and innovation which defend, mitigate and/or remediate corn from deterioration and degradation related to vomitoxin infestation which results in economic losses on farm and potentially to valued downstream customers.

Section 2. Priority Research Areas shall be reviewed each year for relevance and/or emerging threats. These areas shall be representative of on-farm challenges, opportunities and/or economic impacts related to meeting the standards for downstream customers.

Section 3. Priority Research Areas include:

- (a) Methodologies & technologies that prevent and/or defend against the presence of vomitoxin
 - a. Crop protection (biological control and chemistries)
 - b. Seed technologies (genetic engineering, plant breeding, etc.)
 - c. Best management practices
- (b) In field mitigation measures
 - a. Improved testing/scouting
 - b. Crop protection measures
 - c. Best management practices
- (c) Post-harvest strategies
 - a. Improved testing procedures
 - b. Storage and handling technologies and methodologies which mitigate vomitoxin
 - c. Amelioration technology for contaminated grain
- (d) Priority Research Areas may be amended by the CoV after a yearly review, and prior to any RFP announcement.

ARTICLE V – SELECTION AND SUPPORT OF RESEARCH

Section 1. The CoV recommend, and the Voting Board affirm, priority be given to established ongoing COV funded research based on a favorable review of research reports to the CoV

Section 2. If a balance of funding remains after awards are made to established ongoing CoV funded research, the CoV shall work with NCGA Staff to develop an annual request for proposals. The RFP process shall be reviewed each calendar year for changes.

Section 3. RFP procedures include:

- (a) NCGA shall annually revise forms annually at the direction of the CoV
- (b) Preproposal and full proposal submission and review shall be developed annually in conjunction with the CoV. The RFP will outline specific submissions, deadlines, funding opportunities, review criteria, etc. The specific RPF will be determined by the priorities and funding available.
- (c) Proposals will be considered when:
 - a. Submitted by an Eligible Organization, which includes:
 - (a) colleges and universities;
 - (b) university research foundations;
 - (c) governmental research centers;
 - (d) other non-governmental research institutions and organizations;
and
 - (e) private organizations or corporations.
 - b. Authorization is indicated by the research institution demonstrating good standing and support of the proposed research and corresponding budget request.
 - c. A Designated Principal Investigator (PI) is named to serve as the primary point of contact for all communications between CoV and the project. The PI must be faculty or staff at the Eligible Organization.
 - d. A professional and concise proposal is submitted as outlined in the RFP in the manner requested, with information on the research to be conducted, the outcomes anticipated, and the relevance to corn growers.
- (d) Indirect costs are not allowed on CoV awards.
- (e) Student tuition is not allowed on CoV awards; however, a stipend to cover

hours worked is acceptable if supported in the budget justification.

(f) Intellectual property agreements must exist between all research entities before the approval of project funding with collaborations between states.

(g) With the investment of US grower dollars, CoV intends for discoveries to be placed into the public domain for the broadest distribution into research, development, and commercial channels. In cases where a level of protection for intellectual property will accelerate the commercialization to benefit US growers, a limited level of protection may be sought.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of the CoV shall be held at such times and at such places as shall from time to time be determined by consensus of the CoV by resolution of the Voting Board, or as determined by NCGA per CoV administrative function responsibilities. Special meetings of the Board may be called by or at the request of the Chairman or by a majority of the Voting Board.

Section 2. The Research Advisory Body may meet independently of the other parts of the CoV when reviewing and making technical recommendations to the full CoV.

Section 3. PIs supported by CoV and interested researchers, growers, industry and other representatives will present scientific innovations, discuss advances and research challenges, and strategize on next steps, collaborative efforts and solutions for US growers. At least one research focused meeting will be conducted per calendar year.

Section 4. All meetings must be notified by electronic written notice at least three days prior to the start of the meeting.

Section 5. Meeting will mostly be conducted in a virtual nature, but may also, with consensus agreement, be in person as warranted by the specifics of CoV business.

Section 6. No less than one-half of the members of the Voting Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the CoV.

Section 7. Any vacancy occurring among the members of the CoV shall be recruited and designated by the affiliated subgroup or supporting entity from which the vacancy occurs. Notwithstanding that it is generally the responsibility for any vacancy to be filled within 30 days.

Section 8. Representatives on the CoV shall not receive any stated salary for their services or expenses of attendance.